

WEATHER.

Fair tonight, with lowest temperature about 24 degrees; tomorrow cloudy and unsettled. Temperature for twenty-four hours ended at 2 p.m. today—highest, 41, at 3 p.m. yesterday; lowest, 25, at 7 a.m. today.

Closing New York Stocks, Page 19.

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TWO CENTS.

FIAT THEATER CRASH DEATH TOLL PLACED AT 101; FOUR SEPARATE PROBES STARTED TO FIX BLAME

INJURED NUMBER OVER 125 SOME OF WHOM MAY DIE; RESCUE WORK IS HALTED

**Tangled Debris in Ghastly Ruins
Has Been Thoroughly Gone
Over, It Is Declared.**

**THREATENING WALLS TO BE RAZED;
PILES OF WRECKAGE CARTED AWAY**

**Forces Which Have Bravely Labored in
Removing Corpses and Wounded Have
All Left Scene Save Police.**

The death toll of Washington's greatest disaster, the crashing in of the roof of the Knickerbocker Theater, is 101 men, women and children, with four reported dead, but not accounted for.

The number of injured, some of them in such serious condition that they may yet die, is more than a hundred and twenty-five.

These are the figures compiled after careful checking, and completed nearly forty-two hours after the fatal accident.

The work of rescue stopped about daybreak today, thirty-two hours after the catastrophe. No bodies had been removed since 10 o'clock last night. The authorities were convinced that all had been found.

Stark and grim as any ruin in the war-swept area of France or Belgium stood the walls of the Knickerbocker Theater today. Bright sunlight, reflected by the gleaming snow that lay on all sides, relieved the gruesome sight. Within the walls, which still stand shell-like, lies a mass of crumbled concrete, twisted iron girders and debris of all character, but all of this material has been gone over, the police insist, and there is no possibility of there being further dead—and certainly no living—under this wreckage.

Walls Ordered Razed.
As a matter of precaution, and to prevent any loss of life that might result from the caving in of the theater walls, which were still standing today, the police ordered the razing of the theater walls. The work of removing the debris must be done by the owners of the building and must be begun today.

Outside the theater great piles of wreckage are being placed upon trucks and carried away. The soldiers, sailors and marines, which gave such valued service Saturday night and yesterday, have all left the scene. The rescue work has been done by the owners of the building and must be begun today.

The first aid station and temporary morgue, which were established Saturday night in the basement of the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Columbia road, have been dismantled. All of the dead bodies had been identified and removed from there last night, by the undertakers.

Only in one corner of the basement was there today a reminder of the awful scenes which were enacted Saturday night and yesterday. A huge pile of overcoats, and other clothing picked up by the rescuers, was being examined for marks of ownership.

Building Inspector Healy, who today ordered the walls to be razed as a safeguard against further loss of life or injury, has thoroughly examined the contents at the theater since the disaster.

Sees No One to Blame.
He is satisfied, he said after a scrutiny of the plans of the building, that no one is to blame for the collapse.

He has found the plans for the construction of the theater, both in detail and practical, and that the necessary tests following the construction were made.

"In my opinion," Inspector Healy said when asked for an expression as to why the disaster occurred, "it was nothing more than the hand of God. It was one of those things that cannot be explained. However, the facts are such that it would suggest that although the construction of the roof met all the necessary requirements, the weight of the snow was too great. It is my opinion that the strain was not strong enough to hold the great weight of the snow."

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Roof of Truss Type.
The roof of the Knickerbocker Theater was of the truss type of construction, and according to Building Inspector Healy is a standard design used to cover a large expanse of interior, where girders and columns are not to be used as supports. It consists of one principal beam attached to the walls, and a network of smaller beams of much smaller size, which are placed by mathematical calculation to hold the weight of the roof.

This truss type of roof is used by all other motion picture theaters of the larger size, according to Inspector Healy. This type is popular because it permits the elimination of columns or pillars which, to a certain extent, obstruct the view of the screen. It is considered highly practical and safe.

Remarkable Progress Made.
The physical situation at the Knickerbocker Theater at 9 o'clock this morning was remarkably good. Any one viewing the progress made by the time darkness had fallen last evening would hardly have believed the accomplishment possible. The night's labor worked wonders.

By the time the office-going crowds started the ruined interior, although not cleared, had been thoroughly and thoroughly explored, but that slight chance remains of any bodies being found. The great mass of the half of the slanting balcony still re-

Flags of D. C. Buildings Ordered Half Staff To Honor the Dead.

The Commissioners today, as a tribute to the memory of those who lost their lives in the Knickerbocker Theater tragedy, ordered all flags on District buildings, such as schools, firehouses, station houses and the like to be at half-staff for a period of ten days.

COMMISSIONERS ISSUE STATEMENT THANKING ALL WHO AIDED RELIEF

The Commissioners met in board session at 10:45 o'clock this morning and later issued the following statement regarding the Knickerbocker disaster:

"The first information of the catastrophe reached the fire department about 9 o'clock Saturday night, and shortly thereafter the chief of the fire department reached the scene and took charge of the rescue work. He was ably assisted by the police department and by the Army and Marine Corps and sailors from the navy yard, who were called into service as soon as the extent of the catastrophe was realized.

"Heroic work was done by these services and by building and other contractors, who were called in to assist. The Commissioners feel that they cannot individually thank all who rendered such splendid service, but they do specially desire to commend the soldiers, sailors and marines, the men from Walter Reed, the Red Cross, the authorities of the Christian Science Church, the hotels who sent food and coffee to the workers, Salvation Army, the Potomac Electric Power Company, the Washington Railway and Electric Company and the Capital Traction Company. It would be impossible to mention by name the willing and competent citizens who rendered such magnificent service, but whose names unfortunately are not known. They will have the satisfaction, however, of feeling that they rendered a most noble service and that the gratitude of the city is theirs.

"The emergency work at the building is over and the building has been roped off and the police put in charge with orders to keep people away from the walls of the building. The building department has been ordered to make a careful and close inspection of the building and take such steps as are necessary to protect the public. If the walls are found unsafe they will be taken down and any other source of danger removed.

"The Commissioners in the meantime have ordered an investigation for the purpose of determining the cause of the catastrophe."

PRESIDENT GIVES UP RECEPTION PLANS

The Knickerbocker Tragedy Causes Postponement of Other Affairs in D. C.

Declaring "there is so much of grief in Washington today," President Harding today announced postponement of a reception tonight at the White House at which Washington residents of Ohio have been invited in observance of the birthday anniversary of President McKinley.

The President in a letter to Milton E. Alles, chairman of the arrangements committee, said:

"While I have looked forward with most agreeable anticipation to the reception to be given tonight by the Ohio Society, at which we were to meet and happily recall the memory of the late President McKinley, I cannot but feel that we would best answer all our inclinations if the reception were postponed. There is so much of grief in Washington today, so much sorrow attending the Knickerbocker Theater disaster, that I should prefer to omit a social affair while Washington is suffering from the great shock."

"It is especially becoming, as you have suggested, that the society take note of its own particular share in the great sorrow, and the cancellation will be a befitting expression of the grief which has come through accident and death to members and valued friends of the society, and the cancellation will be a befitting expression of the grief which has come through accident and death to members and valued friends of the society."

Ohio's share in the great sorrow related to the fact that Dr. Gearhart and Louis W. Strayer were former residents of Ohio.

G. A. R. Banquet Off.
"There will be no banquet tonight," said Col. John McDill, commander of the Department of the Potomac, Grand Army of the Republic, which had completed arrangements for a banquet to Commander-in-Chief Pilcher, which was to be held at the Ebbitt tonight. Three hundred acceptances had been received and it was expected



COLUMBIA'S ANGUISH.

The Known Dead.

Mary Ethel Atkinson, 2233 18th street.
Albert Baker, address unknown.
Former Representative A. J. Barchfeld of Pennsylvania, 1945 Calvert street.
Mrs. Elmer Barchfeld, daughter-in-law of former Representative Barchfeld, from Pittsburgh.
Joseph W. Beal, 1488 Chapin street.
Archibell Bell, 2111 Bancroft place northwest, 35 years old. Employee of the War Department, a native of Vineland, N. J.
William I. Bickle, 1639 19th street, fifty years old.
Miss Frances Bickle, sixteen, 1639 19th street.
Thomas R. Bourne, 2027 Hillier place.
Mrs. Daisy Garvey Bowden, 2129 18th street.
C. C. Brainerd, correspondent of Brooklyn Daily Eagle, and vice president of the Gridiron Club, 2039 New Hampshire avenue.
Mrs. C. C. Brainerd.
Wilfred Brosseau, North Adams, Mass., student at Georgetown Foreign Service School, from North Adams, Mass.
Albert Buehler, 121 the Portner apartment, previously reported missing.
William M. Canby, Woodward building, representing Mid-land & Shannon.
Mrs. B. H. Covell, 2409 18th street.
W. N. Crawford, Corcoran Apartments.
W. M. Crocker, Congress Hall Hotel.
Vinson W. Dauber, 10, 1800 Belmont road.
Thomas M. Dorsey, address given on auto card as 2524 17th street, apt. 25, and 314 N street S.W.
Miss Helen Dortch, 1656 Euclid street.
Kirkland Duke, 1719 Riggs place.
Margaret Dutch, 1740 Euclid street, apartment 60. Home in Ludington, Mich. Was employed at War Department.
Mrs. Alfred C. Eldridge, the Nelson Apartment, 1733 20th street.
A. G. Eldridge, 1733 20th street, organist at St. Margaret's Church, identified by friend.
Guy S. Eldridge, 1824 Biltmore street. Is brother-in-law of Senator Smoot of Utah.
F. H. Ernest, District manager of the Washington office, Dictograph Products Company, offices 402 Evans building, 1926 Biltmore street.
McC. Farr, Henderson Furniture Co.
Christian Feige, sixty-eight, 1010 18th street.
Miss Virginia Ferand, sister of the Guatemalan minister.
John P. Fleming, 1861 Wyoming avenue, thirty-three years old, assistant examiner in the patent office.
Miss Mary Lee Fleming, 1861 Wyoming avenue, 26 years old.
Thomas Fleming, 1861 Wyoming avenue, identified by name on watch and date, 1872.
Miss Mary Forsyth, 1802 Belmont street, died at Garfield Hospital this morning.
Miss Esther Foster, 1713 Lamont street.
G. S. Freeman, musician, 2827 Connecticut avenue.
Mrs. Clyde M. Gearhart, 1868 Columbia road.
F. H. Hall, address unknown.
Douglas Hillier, 2021 Hillier place.
William C. Hughes, 2503 Champlain street.
Daniel K. Jackson, 2701 Connecticut avenue, broker in the Evans Building, and a brother of E. Hilton Jackson, well known local attorney.
Miss Elizabeth Jeffries, 1767 Massachusetts avenue.
John M. Jeffries, 1767 Massachusetts avenue.

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

List of Injured.

Frank Alexander, 1830 Biltmore street; bruises.
Noble Tommaso Aserto, third secretary of the Italian embassy, 1803 California street; condition serious, X-rays taken to determine condition; at Emergency Hospital.
C. H. Bateman, Cortland apartment; bruised arm and ankle, condition not serious; Garfield Hospital.
Mrs. C. H. Bateman, Cortland apartment; fractured arm and ankle, condition not serious; Garfield Hospital.
June Bergman, 1821 Biltmore street.
Miss June Bergman, 1821 Biltmore street; bruises, not serious; Garfield Hospital.
Raymond Bluff, fourteen years old, 2305 Ontario road; arm bruised, ear torn.
R. J. Bowen, 1949 Biltmore street. Bruises and cuts.
Mrs. R. J. Bowen, 1949 Biltmore street. Left leg broken.
J. H. Boyden, 1833 Ontario road; bruised.
Bernard Bresnan, 1792 Columbia road; both shoulders broken, not serious; Garfield Hospital.
Mrs. Mildred (R. J.) Bowen, 1949 Biltmore street; leg broken; Emergency Hospital.
Mrs. Bernice Bressan, 1793 Columbia road. Arm crushed, shoulders hurt. Garfield Hospital.
Joseph C. Bruce, 1610 Hobart street, of Milford, Mass.; arm badly lacerated; Naval Hospital.
Elliott Brumbaugh, 1954 Biltmore street; shock and bruises.
Mrs. Albert Buellier, 2407 18th street. Broken wrist and other injuries.
Mrs. Hazen Bucher, 121 Portner apartment; broken finger and laceration of hand.
Gilbert Caplan, 1715 18th street northwest; lacerations of the head and arms at Naval Hospital. Doing very well.
Mrs. Mary Chalmers, 22 Grafton street; heavy lacerations on head and bruises on body; at Emergency Hospital.
George E. Cole, 2841 Connecticut avenue; bruised, head cut; employed at Treasury Department.
Miss Margaret Cole, 107 East Florida street; doing well at Garfield Hospital. Has fractured ribs and body and limbs badly cut and bruised.
James A. Curtin, 2402 Ontario road, native of Florence, Mass.; strained internally and bruised on legs.
George Kelsa Daly, 2701 Connecticut avenue, shoulder and leg bruised, in danger of amputation.
James Davidson, 1872 California street, bruised; at Emergency Hospital.
James Davidson, 1872 California street.
F. B. Dodson, 1800 Columbia road, head cut and bruised about the limbs; X-ray examination necessary to determine if bones are broken.
F. W. Dodson, son of F. B. Dodson, 1800 Columbia road, condition good; suffering from cuts and bruises on legs.
J. L. Durand, 2109 18th street, cuts and bruises.
Mrs. J. L. Durand, 2109 18th street, cuts and bruises.
Mrs. Guy Eldridge, 1824 Biltmore street. Was pinned under debris for five hours. Condition not serious. At Garfield Hospital.
John W. Francis, 1840 Biltmore street, left leg badly hurt.
William Ruth Fowle, 1300 Belmont street, bruises; not serious. At Garfield Hospital.
Clara Fisher, 517 23d street, leg fractured. At Emergency Hospital.
Clara Fisher, 517 23d street.
William A. Galloway, 3320 16th street; bruises about leg and chest; Garfield Hospital.
Dr. Clyde M. Gearhart, 1868 Columbia road; amputated condition very serious. Emergency Hospital.
Norman L. Gibson, 1832 Biltmore street, shock and severe bruises. Discharged from Garfield Hospital.
Hugh Glenn, 1855 Calvert street.
Sergeant Lorn M. Goldman, Q. M. C., Washington barracks; fractured knee and bruises.
Paul Golbart, 1832 Calvert street, sickman for T. P. Kelly Piano Company, shoulder dislocated, cuts and bruises.
Moe Gold, 1715 15th street, fractured jaw. Emergency Hospital.
John Grissinger, 1731 S street, slightly injured.
Dr. Castle Lee Hall, 2001 16th street.

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

CONGRESS, GRAND JURY, D. C. HEADS, CORONER, TO PRESS INQUIRIES

**Capper Presents Resolution for
Investigation by Senate
District Committee.**

**DEFECTIVE MATERIAL IS BLAMED
BY THE ENGINEER COMMISSIONER**

**Federal Grand Jury Visits Scene of Disaster—No Effort Will Be Spared
to Place Responsibility.**

Blame for the Knickerbocker Theater disaster that wiped out more than 100 lives and injured scores of others is going to be fixed by all the power of Congress, the law-enforcing branch of the federal government, the District authorities, the federal grand jury and the tremendous driving force of public sentiment.

Four investigations to determine the cause of the crash—and to let the blame rest wherever it may—were started today—by Congress, by the District Commissioners, by the federal grand jury for the District of Columbia and by the District coroner, Dr. J. Ramsey Nevitt, who personally visited the scene within a few minutes after the roof fell.

Pledge was given in both branches of Congress today that whatever might be overlooked or left undone by local authorities in placing the blame for this disaster would be checked up by Congress, and that Congress itself proposes to go deeply into the subject, not only with a view to fixing blame at this time, but also to guard against future calamities that might be preventable.

Defective Material Hinted At.
It is the opinion of Col. Charles Keller, Engineer Commissioner, who spent the greater part of Saturday night and yesterday at the scene of the disaster, that the cause of the collapse was a defect in material at some point of the support for the roof. He said far as the support for the roof generally was concerned the plans indicate that the capacity for weight was great, of any kind of material in a climate of this nature. Col. Keller doubted whether there was any large pile of snow above the breaking point which had been caused by a drift. He said, however, it will be utterly impossible to do so, and that the cause of the collapse actually was a defect in material.

Martin McQuade, foreman, and his associates on the grand jury today suggested the inquiry into the actions of Charles W. Morse, the New York shipbuilder, with the United States Shipping Board, and in body visited the Knickerbocker Theater. The grand jurors made a complete inspection of the scene of the disaster and later will call witnesses and conduct a sweeping inquiry into the cause of the fall of the roof of the building.

No Time Will Be Lost.
United States Attorney Gordon and Foreman McQuade both declared that no time would be lost in starting the investigation, from which it is hoped the cause of the appalling tragedy might be traced. The grand jury will look into the question of the construction of the building and especially of the roof with the view to find any blame attaches to the architect or builders. They will also inquire, it was said, as to the inspection given to the building during construction and since completion, and also whether any effort was made to fix out if the excessive fall of snow should have been removed. If there has been negligence in any of these matters, the grand jurors will take action against the persons found by their inquiry to be responsible for the disaster.

Resolved, that the committee be authorized to employ such expert and other help as may in its judgment be needed to obtain all the facts connected with this disaster.

Resolved, that the expenses of the investigation be defrayed from the contingent fund of the United States Senate.

Capper Calls for Investigation.
A searching investigation of the Knickerbocker disaster was suggested by Senator Capper in the Senate, with a view to determining the responsibility as well as a law necessary to preclude any possible recurrence of such a disaster, was proposed by Senator Capper in the Senate.

Investigation of the entire city government with a view to getting "some civic leadership" here was suggested by Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey in supporting the Capper resolution. He charged that the city was full of fire-traps, which, he said, he knew of his own personal knowledge to exist here. He said that if at any time a casualty should occur there would be a great loss of life. The Knickerbocker catastrophe has shocked not only the city, but the whole country, Senator Capper told the Senate, and in introducing the resolution, said:

"I think that Congress has a responsibility in this connection that cannot be shared. We should know the facts, and if any one is to blame it is the duty of the Congress or of the officials here in the city of Wash-

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

The Star Voices Appreciation Of Employes' Arduous Service

To all employes who were able to assist the circulation department in the extraordinary emergency Saturday and Sunday, The Evening Star Company wishes to publicly express its grateful appreciation.

Without the splendid assistance the city circulation was nearly 100% and The Star was the only paper circulated in many districts. The help of these volunteers the city circulation was nearly 100% and The Star was the only paper circulated in many districts.

Some employes were continuously on duty for thirty-six hours in either the news department or in helping out the circulation department and are on the job this morning as usual.

The company hereby voices great appreciation to all for their co-operation and loyalty to the organization.

THE EVENING STAR NEWSPAPER COMPANY.